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May 18, 1999

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MAY 18 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

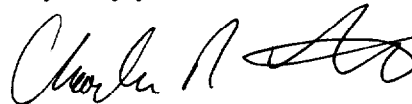
Re: Creation of a Low Power Radio Service;  
MM Docket No. 99-25, RM-9208, RM-9242

Dear Ms. Salas:

Transmitted herewith, on behalf of United States Senator Robert G. Torricelli, are five copies of his letter submitted in response to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the above-referenced proceeding. The original letter has been delivered to the Commission's Chairman concurrently.

In the event that there are questions concerning this matter, please communicate with this office.

Very truly yours,



Charles R. Naftalin

Enclosures

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ROBERT G. TORRICELLI  
NEW JERSEY

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## United States Senate

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May 14, 1999

The Honorable William Kennard  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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**MAY 18 1999**  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing to submit the following comments regarding the FCC's proposal to create a new low power FM (LPFM) service, also known as microradio. While I understand that the Commission's goals in this matter are to ensure that the public spectrum is used to benefit all Americans, and to provide more Americans with access to stations that serve the needs of their local communities, I do have some concerns about how this new policy will be implemented.

- For example, the FCC should grant existing FM translator stations "grandfather" status and protect them from any interference from new LPFM service.
- Also, existing FM translators licensed in counties where there is no licensed local commercial FM service, and where none can be allocated under the commission's rules, should be authorized to begin local origination of programming. These FM translators stations should be required to comply with the same non-technical rules which apply to full power FM stations.

These translators should also be given the right to increase power to the Commission's proposed LPFM100 or LPFM1000 status, and translators operating between 98.5 and 107.9 FM should not be limited by I.F. interference spacing requirements. Such facilities should be limited to receiving I.F. interference, not giving interference.

- Finally, such existing translators should only be required to protect co-channel and first adjacent channel stations.

Thank you for considering these suggestions. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

  
ROBERT G. TORRICELLI  
United States Senator